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Local students chosen for enviro program

Robyn Chaplin of Nashville, a University of Tennessee student, was one of 16 students honored at an environmental leadership summit. Other winners include Clinton Sands, Fisk University, and Erin Byers, University of Tennessee.

They each received \$5,000 and will take part in a research expedition to Brazil next month. It's all part of an environmental leadership program developed by Nissan North America Inc. and the World Wildlife Fund.

"I hope to learn about many different issues affecting the environment and what I can do, both professionally and personally, to be apart of a positive change for the future," Chaplin said in an emailed statement.

The students, who come from schools around the country, visited Capitol Hill, the World Bank and the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C. They met recently in Nashville with local officials, including Gov. Phil Bredesen.

One of their field trips was to study conservation at the Duck River.

- ANNE PAINE

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